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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/22/2007

SPONSOR Begaye LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 102

SHORT TITLE RURAL NAVAJO ORAL HEALTH CARE PLAN SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST McOlash

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$3,000.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Department of Indian Affairs (DIA)  
 Department of Health (DOH)  
 Health Policy Commission (HPC)  
 Department of Higher Education (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 102 appropriates \$3.0 million from the General Fund to the New Mexico Higher Department for San Juan College for expenditure in FY 2008 through FY 2012 to establish and maintain a dental hygiene intervention and prevention program for Navajo children less than four years of age.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$3.0 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2012 shall revert to the General Fund.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

While oral disease may be the most preventable health condition affecting the US population, the oral health of minorities and the underserved remains poor. Tooth decay is the most common childhood disease and is five times more common than asthma. Among American Indian children, dental caries are even more prevalent. According to the 1999 Indian Health Service (IHS) Oral Health Survey, 76% of all 2- to 4-year-old American Indian and Alaska Native children have experienced dental decay, compared to 18% of all 2- to 5-year-olds nationally (Healthy People 2010 database). In New Mexico, the decay experience rate for American Indian and Alaska Native 2- to 4-year-olds drops to 63%, but is still far higher than the overall national average.

This request was not on the list of priority projects submitted by San Juan College to the New Mexico Higher Education Department for review and was not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY 2008.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

NM HED

In order to implement this program, significant planning would have to occur and measurable goals created. Outreach to the parents of Navajo children would be required. Finding adequate space at San Juan College would have to be addressed.

BM/mt